

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 04796 100943Z

15

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-04 COME-00 CPR-01 FMC-01

DOT-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 (ISO) W

----- 057524

R 100905Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1440

INFO SECDEF WASHDC//ISA(SA)DSAA//

CNO WASHDC

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMIDEASTFOR

COMSCMED NAPLES IT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUWAIT 4796

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CFED KU

SUBJ: DISPLAY OF KUWAIT FLAG BY US NAVAL VESSELS IN KUWAITI
PORTS

REF: A. KUWAIT 4797; B. KUWAIT 4202; C. CINCUSNAVEUR 051347Z

OCT 74; D. COMIDEASTFOR 03038Z NOV 74

SUMMARY: EMBASSY REQUESTS INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING NATURE OF
REPLY WHICH SHOULD BE MADE TO KUWAITI DIPLOMATIC NOTE ADVISING
THAT US COMMERCIAL AND NAVAL VESSELS MUST DISPLAY KUWAITI FLAG
WHILE IN KUWAITI PORTS. IMPLICATIONS OF KUWAIT POLICY ON
PROPOSED VISIT TO KUWAIT OF USS LAWRENCE (DDG-4) ARE DISCUSSED.

1. ON NOV 3 EMBASSY RECEIVED FROM KUWAIT MINISTRY FOREIGN
AFFAIRS DIPLOMATIC NOTE ADVISING THAT US COMMERCIAL AND NAVAL
VESSELS VISITING KUWAITI PORTS MUST DISPLAY KUWAIT FLAG.
TEXT NOTE TRANSMITTED REFTEL (A). NOTE REFERS TO RECENT INCIDENT
INVOLVING US NAVY TANKER "FALCON LADY" AT SHUAIBA PORT
DESCRIBED REFTEL (B).

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 KUWAIT 04796 100943Z

2. WE HAVE DISCUSSED SUBSTANCE NOTE WITH OFFICIALS OF THE KUWAITI MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE LOCAL BRITISH EMBASSY. THE FORMER CONFIRM KUWAITI INSISTENCE THAT FOREIGN COMMERCIAL AND NAVAL VESSELS COMPLY WITH ARTICLE 87 OF KUWAIT'S "GENERAL PORT RULES OF JULY 16, 1959" (BASED ON AMIRI DECREE NO 7 OF 1952) WHICH STATES: "WHILE IN THE PORT LIMITS, A SHIP SHALL FLY BY DAY HER NATIONAL FLAG IN THE AFTER PART OF THE SHIP, AND THE KUWAIT NATIONAL FLAG AT THE FORE." THE DECISION TO "PRESS THE ISSUE AND ESTABLISH THE PRECEDENT" FOR US NAVAL SHIPS APPARENTLY WAS MADE BY THE UNDER SECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, RASHID A. AL-RASHID. EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT MATTER IS "NOT NEGOTIABLE".

3. OUR DISCUSSIONS INDICATE THAT ALLEGED STATEMENT BY MASTER FALCOM LADY SEPT 23 THAT "US NAVY REGULATIONS PROHIBIT THE HOISTING OF THE NATIONAL FLAG IN ANY FOREIGN COUNTRY VISITED EXCEPT SAUDI ARABIA" MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO GOK INTRANSIGENCE. MINISTRY OFFICIAL TOLD DCM MAU THAT LANGUAGE CONTAINED IN EMBASSY'S LETTER MENTIONED REFTEL (B) WHICH ADVISED OF US NAVY PRACTICES WITH RESPECT TO DISPLAYING HONORS BUT MADE NO MENTION OF SAUDI ARABIA, PROBABLY, IN HIS OPINION, WOULD HAVE RESULTED IN TACIT GOK ACCEPTANCE US NAVY PRACTICES BUT THAT "FLAUNTING" OF SPECIAL SITUATION IN SAUDI ARABIA DURING FALCON LADY INCIDENT MADE MATTER INTOLERABLE.

4. EMBASSY HAS CONFIRMED WITH LOCAL BRITISH EMBASSY THAT UK NAVAL VESSELS VISITING KUWAIT TRADITIONALLY DISPLAY KUWAITI FLAG ALTHOUGH MATTER LEFT TO DISCRETION OF SHIP'S CAPTAIN.

5. IN FURTHER FOLLOW-UP ON MATTER, AL-RASHID TOLD AMBASSADOR NOV 9 THAT U.S. COMMERCIAL VESSELS AND WARSHIPS MUST COMPLY WITH KUWAITI LAW.

6. IT IS REQUESTED DEPARTMENT PROVIDE GUIDANCE CONCERNING NATURE OF REPLY WHICH EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE TO KUWAIT NOTE. IN LIGHT PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, EMBASSY ALSO REQUESTS INSTRUCTIONS WHETHER IT SHOULD PROCEED TO REQUEST CLEARANCE FOR ROUTINE OPERATIONAL VISIT TO KUWAIT DECEMBER 30-JANUARY 3 OF USS LAWRENCE (DDG-4) ATTACHED TO COMIDEASTFOR (REFTEL D).
STOLTZFUS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 KUWAIT 04796 100943Z

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KUWAIT04796
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740323-0854
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741155/aaaabuwhtel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. KUWAIT 4797; B. KUWAIT 4202; C. C, INCUSNAVEUR 051347Z
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <01 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DISPLAY OF KUWAIT FLAG BY US NAVAL VESSELS IN KUWAITI PORTS
TAGS: CFED, KU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005